

March 7, 1975

but when I answered the question I am not sure about it so I don't want to give you a positive answer. Maybe Senator Goodrich can answer that question.

SENATOR GOODRICH: What it boils down to is this, the statutes now provide that the minimum salary be \$25,000. We are raising that to \$35,000 minimum salary. They could, for example, raise it already. There really isn't much need for the bill but I am going to suggest we pass it anyhow so that we will establish a new minimum and they will go ahead and pay the amount of salary necessary to get a good qualified competent man and considering the amount of money that is invested by this man and controlled and handled by him, we had better have a very competent man in that position. All we are doing is raising the minimum salary from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: Mr. President, I think Senator Goodrich stands corrected on that. I think we have amended it and I think the amendment has been adopted. I think it is \$30,000, Senator Goodrich. Well, that's a little different than \$35,000 because I think the Governor had opposed the \$35,000 so the Committee thought that we would compromise at \$30,000 and in answer to the other question, Senator Lewis, the base salary that we have had in these bills and statutes is usually what they pay and they will not get a person a raise...they will not give a person a raise until we raise the minimum. So in other words, usually the minimum is the base salary and that is the reason that's on it, \$25,000 and we raised it to \$30,000, a compromise of \$35,000, we thought in Committee.

PRESIDENT: Senator Savage.

SENATOR SAVAGE: I am further in support of moving this bill over. Senator Luedtke talked to me the other day and told me that they do have a highly qualified person. I don't know the gentleman but I respect Senator Luedtke's opinion and I am hopeful that we can get a salary and I think the Governor appoints this man, and I am hopeful we can get a salary commensurate with his qualifications. So that is another point that I had forgotten about.

PRESIDENT: Senator Dworak.

SENATOR DWORAK: Mr. President, I have a question of Senator Savage. We are talking only about minimum salaries and we are not involved with maximums, at all?

SENATOR SAVAGE: I think that is the maximum, really, instead of the minimum.

PRESIDENT: No, the bill says minimum.

SENATOR DWORAK: Do we do this for each Department head? Do we do this for the Director of Motor Vehicles, Department of Roads, every department head, do we do this?

SENATOR SAVAGE: I don't think so. No.

SENATOR DWORAK: Might I ask what is so unique about this department that we need to get involved in salary considerations